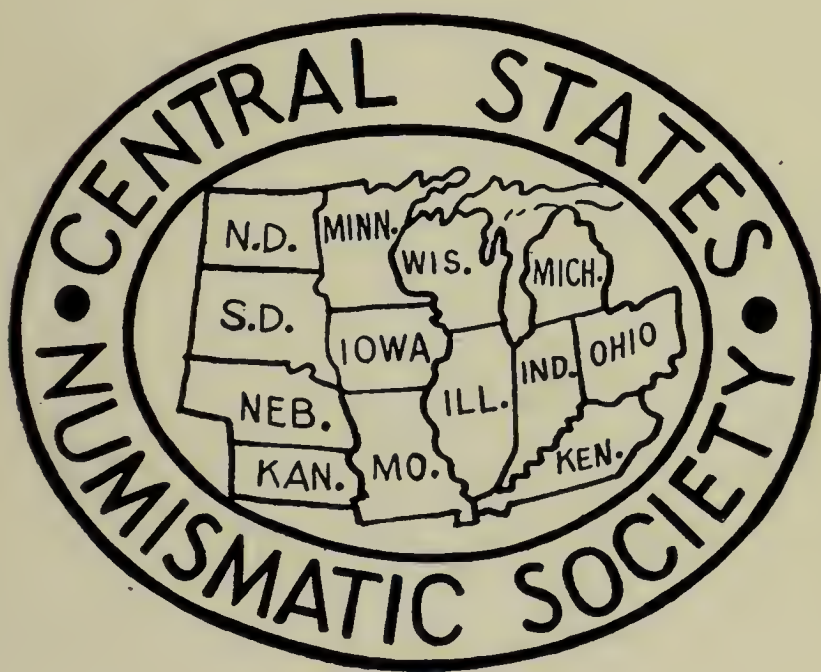


THE CENTINEL

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION



THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION

Chicago, Illinois

May 2-4

April, 1969

Volume 16, Number 3

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	P	D	S		P	D	S
1918	—	—	65.00	1934	11.00	32.50	69.50
1928	—	32.50	—	1935	10.00	45.00	67.50
1929	—	55.00	—	1936	9.50	21.00	39.50
1930	40.00	NM	47.50	1937	12.00	65.00	57.50
1932	14.00	—	—	1938	32.50	200.00	NM
1934	12.50	65.00	NM	1939	12.00	15.00	32.50
'34 lite motto	22.50	—	—	1940	8.50	NM	—
1935	10.00	57.50	37.50	1941	8.00	15.50	37.50
1936	8.25	250.00	32.50	1942	6.75	16.50	16.50
1937	8.50	15.00	—	1943	6.00	12.50	17.50
1938	45.00	NM	30.00	1944	6.00	7.50	8.00
1939	7.50	10.00	32.50	1945	6.50	7.50	7.50
1940	12.50	42.50	7.50	1946	8.50	13.50	9.50
1941	3.00	5.50	7.50	1947	10.75	9.50	NM
1942	2.50	3.75	18.50	1948	13.00	8.00	NM
1943	2.50	4.25	5.50	1949	32.50	26.50	27.50
1944	1.50	3.50	3.25	1950	23.50	16.00	6.50
1945	1.25	4.00	2.50	1951	6.50	25.00	15.00
1946	1.25	3.75	5.75	1952	4.50	4.00	14.50
1947	2.00	2.25	5.50	1953	15.00	3.50	7.50
1948	1.50	3.00	2.75	1954	3.50	2.25	4.25
1949	12.50	6.00	NM	1955	12.00	Bugs Bunny	12.50
1950	1.75	2.00	3.75	1956	4.50	NM	NM
1951	1.25	1.25	7.50	1957	4.50	2.60	NM
1952	1.25	1.25	3.00	1958	4.50	2.25	NM
1953	2.00	1.25	2.00	1959	3.75	2.25	NM
1954	1.25	1.50	1.50	1960	3.00	2.25	NM
1955	2.00	5.00	NM	1961	3.00	3.00	NM
1956	1.25	1.00	NM	1962	2.25	2.00	NM
1957	1.00	1.00	NM	1963	1.75	1.75	NM
1958	2.50	.75	NM	1964	1.50	1.50	NM
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Chicago Plans Anniversary Convention

The Sheraton-Chicago Hotel in Chicago will be the site for the thirtieth anniversary convention of the Central States Numismatic Society. The convention, to be held May 2-4, will also mark the Golden Anniversary of the founding of the host club, the Chicago Coin Club. General Chairman Howard Eisenberg has called the May conven-



The three Jims, (seated) Babka, Grebinger, and (standing) Budd, make plans for the May convention.

tion a "complete numismatic event." "Every effort is being made to make this year's convention truly worthy of the two important birthdays it celebrates," Eisenberg added.

A complete convention program appears elsewhere in this issue. The following is a brief outline of the planned highlights of the conclave:

REGISTRATION AND SECURITY

Two types of registration will be available to those attending the convention. The \$1 registration will include a commemorative token, a sou-

venir badge, a souvenir program and auction catalogue, entrance to the hospitality room, and complete convention privileges. The free registration includes only a paper stick-on name badge.

A security room will be maintained on the same floor as the bourse and exhibit rooms from Wednesday noon, preceding the convention until noon of the Monday after. All guests are urged very strongly to use these security facilities.

P.N.G. DAY — MAY 1

The Professional Numismatists Guild will sponsor an invitation-only bourse from 10 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. A meeting and dinner will complete the events for that day.

EXHIBITS

Jim Budd, 130 Chicago Avenue, Oak Park, Ill. 60302 has a few display case spaces available at press time. The exhibits will be judged under the new classifications as well as in an Open category.

FRANKLIN MINT HOSPITALITY ROOM

All registered (paid) guests are invited to take advantage of the hospitality room which is sponsored by the Franklin Mint. Coffee, soft drinks and light snacks will be available according to the convention schedule.

Ralph "Curly" Mitchell and Arlie Slabough will be the official hosts. The hospitality room is located on the floor above the bourse and exhibits.

AUCTION

Rare Coin Company of America will hold a two-session auction, Friday evening and Saturday afternoon. The sale will consist of the August Hausske collection of choice U.S. Coins as well as other consignments. Hausske is a Governor of C.S.N.S. and a long-time member of the Chicago Coin Club. Auction catalogues will be mailed to all Central States members and will be available to all paid registrants.



August Hausske

BOURSE

The bourse is sold out. Sixty-five dealers will be on hand to buy, sell, and do business during the convention.

LADIES' LUNCHEON

This year's ladies' luncheon will be a special treat. The luncheon will be

held Saturday noon in the King Arthur Room of the hotel. The luncheon will be followed by a cooking demonstration by Frank Pope, member of the world famous Pope Cooking School family. Recipes will be supplied. The cost of the luncheon and demonstration is \$3 per person. The attendance is limited. Those desiring to attend the luncheon are requested to drop the luncheon chairlady your name so your place can be reserved. Drop a card, no deposit necessary, to Mrs. Phyllis Eisenberg, 1308 Spring St., Madison, Wisconsin 53715. It should be a most interesting afternoon. Tickets should be picked up at time of registration.

BANQUET

This year's banquet will truly be the highlight of the convention. The dinner will be preceded by a 7 p.m. Dutch treat cocktail hour in the Boulevard Room with dinner to follow an hour later. The master of ceremonies will be Lee F. Hewitt, Honorary President of the Society. There will be a short business meeting which will consist of the presentation of the Medal of Merit, the Best in Show Award, and the Elston Bradfield Literary Award. This literary award, donated by the Lewis Reagan Foundation, will be presented by Mr. Bradfield. The evening will be rounded off by special entertainment provided by banquet chairman Andrew Oberbillig. The cost per person is \$8. Tickets should be bought immediately upon registration.

There will be a business meeting on Saturday morning to round out the convention plans. Consult the complete convention program for specific times and locations.

The Chicago Coin Club proudly invites you to join us for this important numismatic event. See you in Chicago!

FROM THE SECRETARY

I find some members did read my remarks in the January CENTINEL about notification of address change. I appreciate the responses that have come in advising us of your new address. I must let you in on one small secret—even one governor forgot to inform me, and I found it out only when I phoned him. Contrary to some reports, the membership of C.S.N.S. continued steady through April 30, 1966. Some administrations have shown growth in C.S.N.S. and others have not.

I receive many inquiries on "why should I maintain my membership in the Central State Numismatic Society?" Remember, your return is according to your investment. I have received mental stimulus and satisfaction from serving this Society.

1. You have made acquaintances in C.S.N.S. that otherwise would not have been made, and derived much personal satisfaction therefrom.

2. The C.S.N.S. is second to the A.N.A. in prominent bourse dealers

attending our conventions; in the number of prominent collectors; in the outstanding personalities who attend.

3. We maintain a quarterly periodical. If you don't receive them, place your correct mailing address at my disposal.

4. The C.S.N.S. is a regional society of thirteen states, not merely a single state society.

5. The C.S.N.S. has been well known since its foundation in 1939. A membership carries weight, second only to the A.N.A.

6. This C.S.N.S. convention could be second, in fact, to the A.N.A. if you, the individual member, would get behind and push, attend the general business session, and if you feel some overhauling should be done—get up and say so! Don't leave all the criticism to one person.

Now plan to be with us in Chicago.

Your Secretary,
F. S. EPPS

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS OF CENTRAL STATES NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

The Governing Board of Central States Numismatic Society has adopted a resolution proposing that the By-Laws of the Society be amended to provide that the dues of Regular and Junior Members be increased from \$2 to \$3 per year. As the life membership fee is equivalent to twenty (20) years' dues, the proposed amendment would automatically increase the life membership fee to \$60. If the increase is adopted by the membership, the dues increase will be accomplished by amending the first

sentence of Article II, Section 7, of the By-Laws to read as follows:

"The Annual Dues of Regular and Junior Members shall be \$3.00 for the Society year ending April 30th."

The proposed amendment, which will apply to all dues paid after its adoption, will be voted upon at the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel, 505 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, on May 3, 1969, at 10 o'clock a.m.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

Note: This program is subject to last-minute changes. Please consult the information desk at entrance to the bourse room for last-minute changes.

WEDNESDAY — APRIL 30 — Security Room opens at 12 noon, Suite 741

THURSDAY — MAY 1 — P.N.G. DAY. Bourse and dinner by invitation only.

FRIDAY — MAY 2

- 8:00 A.M. Security Room opens, Suite 741
- 8:30 A.M. Convention Registration opens, Seventh Floor Foyer
- 8:30 A.M. Bourse Room opens to dealers only, Grand Ballroom, Seventh Floor. All dealers must obtain their special badges before entering Bourse Room.
- 9:00 A.M. Exhibit Room opens to Exhibitors only, Crystal Room, Seventh Floor
- 10:00 A.M. Bourse and Exhibit Rooms open to Public, Seventh Floor
- 12:00 Noon Hospitality Room sponsored by the Franklin Mint opens to all paid registered guests, Lake Ontario Room, Eighth Floor.
- 2:00 P. M. C.S.N.S. Board Meeting, Alhambra Suite, Fifth Floor
- 5:00 P. M. Hospitality Room closes
- 7:00 P. M. First Auction Session by RARCOA, Tropical Room, Fifth Floor
- 10:00 P. M. Exhibits, Bourse, and Registration close.

SATURDAY — MAY 3

- 10:00 A.M. Registration, Bourse, Exhibits, open to public, Seventh Floor
- 10:00 A.M. Hospitality Room sponsored by the Franklin Mint opens to all paid registered guests. Lake Ontario Room, Eighth Floor
- 10:00 A.M. C.S.N.S. General Membership Meeting, Tropical Room, Fifth Floor. All members urged to attend.
- 12:00 Noon Ladies' Luncheon, King Arthur Room, Third Floor. Tickets must be purchased in advance; \$3.00 to all registered ladies. Luncheon will be followed by a demonstration by Robert Pope, of the world famous Pope School of Fancy Cooking.
- 1:00 P. M. Educational Program: "Numismatics as Part of a College Curriculum: Fact or Fiction," William Pettit, Moderator; Dr. Vladimir Clain-Stefanelli; Elvira Clain-Stefanelli, and Dr. Alan R. Feinberg, Panelists, Tropical Room, Fifth Floor. Open Free to Public.
- 3:00 P. M. Second Auction Session by RARCOA, Tropical Room, Fifth Floor
- 5:00 P. M. Hospitality Room closes
- 6:00 P. M. Bourse, Exhibits, and Registration close
- 7:00 P. M. Dutch Treat Cocktail Hour, Boulevard Room, Fifth Floor
- 8:00 P. M. Gala Anniversary Banquet, Boulevard Room, Fifth Floor. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Registration Desk at \$8.00 each.

SUNDAY — MAY 4

- 10:00 A.M. Registration, Bourse, Exhibits, open to public, Seventh Floor
- 10:00 A.M. C.S.N.S. Board Meeting, Alhambra Suite, Fifth Floor
- 10:00 A.M. Hospitality Room sponsored by the Franklin Mint opens, Lake Ontario Room, Eighth Floor
- 2:00 P. M. Hospitality Room closes
- 5:00 P. M. CONVENTION CLOSES TO PUBLIC
be cleared. Security Room open until Monday noon.

HOW "CENTRAL STATES" BEGAN

By LEE F. HEWITT

Honorary President, C.S.N.S.

Chances are that during this year of 1969 the number of numismatic conventions and shows held throughout the country will far exceed one thousand . . . so today a coin convention certainly isn't a novelty.

However, thirty years ago it was a different matter. There was only one convention each year in the entire country — the A.N.A. True, the larger of the 75 or so local clubs, such as Brooklyn Coin Club, Chicago Coin Club, San Francisco, to name a few, held annual banquets which frequently attracted some out-of-town attendance.

During the late 1930's Frank C. Ross, Kansas City, conducted the coin column of "Hobbies Magazine" and he frequently mentioned the long wait between yearly conventions to personally chew the rag about coins with out-of-town friends and that the number of collectors in the mid-west had grown to a point that a get-together was justified. Frank kept bugging me, pointing out that the Chicago Coin Club, being the largest in the country, should take the lead and the "Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine" was well enough established to publicize it.

Finally, I presented the proposition at a meeting of the Chicago Coin Club that if the club would appropriate \$100.00 towards meeting any deficit incurred that Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine would do likewise. Club members agreed and the First Central States Numismatic Conference was set into motion. Other clubs in the area were contacted to act as co-sponsors, without financial obligation. Those that responded were: Toledo Coin Club, Trumbull Coin Club, Missouri Numismatic Society, Ames

Numismatic Society, Omaha Coin Club, Heart of America Numismatic Assn., Madison Coin Club, Youngstown Numismatic Club, St. Paul Numismatic Assn., Corn Belt Coin Club, Quad Cities Coin Club, Des Moines Coin Club, Milwaukee Numismatic Society, Northwest Coin Club, Waukesha Coin Club and the Burlington Coin Club.

Vernon Sheldon and I handled all the hotel arrangements and picked the Florentine Room of the Congress Hotel for the site, with April 22 and 23, 1939 for date.

William Evans handled the exhibits, William Rayson the auction (the only commercial portion of the Conference) and I. T. Kopicki acted as treasurer and registration chairman. Registration fee was set at \$2.00 which included banquet, medal, badge, educational program and souvenirs.

The Conference registered 250 persons, making it the second largest gathering of numismatists ever held in the world up to that date. The public attendance to view exhibits was about 1,000 persons. Prior to opening of the conference there was no organized thought concerning establishing a permanent organization but only a few hours had passed the first day when the enthusiastic question began to pop-up as to "how and where" are we going to do this next year. Arrangements were made to hold a formal meeting the next day following the final educational forum to discuss formation of a permanent organization. J. Henri Ripstra, then president of A.N.A., acted as temporary chairman.

The group assembled immediately voted to form a permanent organization. The first suggested name of

"Central States Federation" was lost by vote and then "Central States Numismatic Society" was adopted. Arthur B. Kelley was elected president.

Among those present at that first meeting, who may be back in Chicago for the 30th Anniversary meeting include: I. T. Kopicki, Richard McP. Cabeen, Carl Shelby, Harold Klein, Harry X Boosel, E. C. Gerber, Ted Hammer, Paul Pennington, M. H. Jackson, Clifford Lindall, Paul H. Gintner, Russell Stehfest, C. C. Shroyer, Lou Riggs, Sam Carlson, H. L. Polzer, M. V. Sheldon, Thomas Shugrue, M.

A. Powills, and J. Hewitt Judd.

Of course, many prominent numismatists who attended in 1939 have passed on. These include the famous dealers B. Max Mehl, James MacAlister, James Kelly, John R. Stewart, Charles E. Green and Franklyn Miller and well-known collectors such as William G. Rayson, R. Edward Davies, Richard Rosholm, William Evans, Ernest Moore, Dr. Joseph Reich, Herb Walker, Dr. J. H. Henderson, J. Henri Ripstra and a host of others who have left their mark on the pages of numismatic history.

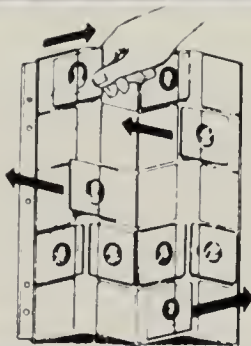
Editor's Note: Lee F. Hewitt, L.M. 1, is one of the founders of this Society. He was founder and, until last year, editor of the Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine. This article is written on the occasion of the thirtieth Anniversary of the C.S.N.S. Mr. Hewitt has continued since 1939 to be not only a guiding force behind Central States, but in all areas of numismatics.

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CLUB CORNER

Editor's Note: This column consists of news items which are sent to the Editor. If your Club is a member of Central States, but does not have its news published in this column, please ask your Club's secretary to add us to your mailing list. If your club is not a member of C.S.N.S. perhaps you could suggest membership at your local club's next meeting. Do it now before the dues increase goes into effect May 3.

ILLINOIS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Ill. N.A. has set September 27 and 28 as the dates of its annual convention. The State organization will meet in Centralia, Illinois. Information on the convention may be obtained from David Conder, 1319 South Cherry Street, Centralia, Illinois 62801. Larry Camp, the Association's Secretary, recently added the Editorship of the COIN DIGEST to his other responsibilities.

MARYLAND FOREIGN PAPER MONEY CLUB

The Winter, 1968 issue of The Currency Collector, official M.F.P.M.C. publication, contains several interesting articles. Among them are "The Cervanteros," an article by Eduardo Dargent on the Peruvian Revolutionary notes of 1921 and 1922. Another major article in the issue is by Dr. M. R. Talisman on the notes of the Austrian-Hungarian Plebiscite of 1921 entitled "Sopron." Membership and subscription information may be obtained from A. J. Sullivan, 701 Hammands Lane, Baltimore, Md. 21225.

MICHIGAN STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

The spring convention of M.S.N.S. is planned for April 11-13 at the Ban-

croft Hotel in Saginaw. There will be a bourse, exhibits, and specialty meetings. Information from Joe Overstreet, 5475 State St., Saginaw, Michigan 48603.

MIDWEST NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION—Kansas City, Mo.

The February meeting of the M. N.A. marked the group's Ninth Anniversary. Flowers, cake, and coffee were offered to mark the anniversary. The Club is planning for a big National Coin Week observance April 20-26. Committee chairman Dale Thompson has not only arranged for display but for television time on the local N.B.C. outlet in Kansas City. The Club members elected Rosetta Thompson the Club's first female President at the December meeting.

MINNESOTA ORGANIZATION OF NUMISMATISTS

Members of MOON will gather in Winona, Minnesota, April 13 to elect a new slate of officers. The slate that was "elected" at the organization's October convention was declared disqualified due to a Constitutional technicality. MOON Views Editor and former Central States Governor, Rolie Finner, has crossed the state line to join the staff of Krause Publications in Iola, Wisconsin. Finner will continue to edit the MOON publication for the time being.

MISSOURI NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF ST LOUIS

Members of the M.N.S. learned how to pass bad checks at their January 27th meeting. Richard Riley, cashier of the Manchester Bank of St. Louis, told the members present of the many

techniques employed by bogus check writers. Riley pointed out that 78% of the money supply in the U.S.—a whopping \$193 million—is handled by check. Riley pointed out that so many businesses now cash checks as a service to their customers that even when a check signed “U. R. Stuck” was presented, the busy cashier took the check. Needless to say, she was stuck. After learning how to pass bad checks at the January meeting the Club scheduled M. S. Scheuerman of the Secret Service to instruct the members in counterfeiting at their February meeting.

MADISON COIN CLUB

Howard Eisenberg, sometimes Editor of THE CENTINEL, was guest speaker at the February meeting of the Madison, Wisconsin Coin Club. Eisenberg's topic, “The New Numismatics,” dealt with new trends in several areas of the hobby.

NEBRASKA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

The Omaha Coin Club was to act as host for the March 22-23 convention of the N.N.A. Officers nominated were Vivian Cooper, President; Gelvin Leeper, First Vice President; and Aksel Hansen, Second Vice President.

OLD FORT COIN CLUB

Fort Wayne, Indiana

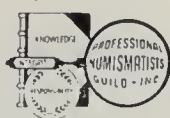
The Old Fort Club is now meeting in the American Legion Post 82 on Wells Street. The Club's January newsletter contains several interesting articles on wooden money and the Great Seal of Indiana.

WESTERN RESERVE NUMISMATIC CLUB

Cleveland, Ohio

The W.R.N.C. announced the death of its curator, Otto Budde. Budd, who died on January 17, had been a Club member for 45 years.

We are hoping to see all of you at P.N.G. Day and at the Central States Convention the following three days. Bring your want lists — we'll be ready!



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CHICAGO COIN CLUB CELEBRATES 50th ANNIVERSARY WITH DINNER AND MEDAL

In spite of miserable weather and forecasts of even more dire developments, 77 members and friends of the Chicago Coin Club gathered at festive tables Wednesday evening, January 8, for the venerable Club's 600th meeting. After everyone was seated at floral decorated tables in Harding's Restaurant's private dining room, member Harry Boosel said an appropriate grace. Then member Matt Rothert led in the drinking of a champagne toast preceding a scrumptious prime rib dinner. The 25 ladies present wore beautiful corsages with the compliments of J. Thomas Nolan, chairman of the dinner arrangements.



Former A.N.A. President Matt Rothert offers a toast to the Club's Golden Anniversary

During the cocktail hour preceding the dinner, members picked up the beautiful art medal issued in observance of the Club's 50th Anniversary.

Designs for the 2¼-inch piece were created by sculptor Trygve Rovelstad, designer of the 1936 Elgin half dollar and the 1968 Illinois Sesquicentennial medal, as well as other less known but equally meritorious works. Much credit for this medal-

lic achievement belongs to member William T. Louth, President of the Medallic Art Co. of New York City, who served as adviser from the outset of the project.



The Chicago Coin Club's 50th Anniversary medal, designed by Trygve Rovelstad and struck by the Medallic Art Company. The 2¼-inch bronze pieces are available at \$5.00 each postpaid, with the issue being limited to 500. (Photo by Rehder)

The profile on the medal is from the left side of the face of a heroic "I WILL" statue designed by Rovel-

stad and approved by the Illinois Legislature for erection in Lake Michigan east of Buckingham Fountain in Chicago. Born of the Chicago Fire of 1871 was a symbolic representation of the City's determination to overcome calamity and adversity, to rebuild and

defaced after the striking of these medals is completed.

The reverse was designed with the intention of retaining the die for use on future Club medals, possibly for awards or commemoration of other events. The simple design features the



Inspecting one of the models for the Chicago Coin Club 50th Anniversary medal last fall in Rovelstad's Elgin studio are (seated) sculptor Trygve Rovelstad, and (standing) Club President James J. Grebinger, and Glenn B. Smedley.

to achieve its destiny as the metropolis of mid-America. An early depiction was the facing figure of a vigorous woman, arms akimbo, with armored torso and a headdress dominated by the mythological phoenix rising from flames. "I WILL" was on the breastplate.

The head is a modern adaptation of the head of Arethusa on the ancient Greek coins of Syracuse, with a subordinated phoenix added. Around the left rim of the obverse is "C.C.C. 50th ANNIVERSARY", and behind the head and neck the dates "1919 1969." In much smaller letters, the motto "I WILL" appears just under the head of the phoenix. This die is to be

Hexagon, a constellation of six stars of the first magnitude surrounding Betelgeuse, one of the nearest stars to earth and the first star to have its size determined (1920). Sirius, at the base, is the brightest star in the heavens. Others making up the Hexagon are, clockwise from Sirius, Procyon, Pollux, Capella (at the apex), Alderbaran (the red star) and Rigel. This constellation is visible in the southern sky in early evenings during January-March.

Besides representing the constellation under which the Club was born, this symbolizes man's concern with astral exploration. Within the Hexagon is the Club's familiar CCC mon-

ogram, surrounded by "ORGANIZED 1919 INCORPORATED 1938." Around the upper half of the rim is the Club name, with its Latin motto "DOCENDO DISCIMUS" (We Learn By Teaching) below the Hexagon.

Orders may be placed at this time for the 2¼-inch bronze medals at \$5.00 each. With remittance payable to Chicago Coin Club Medal, orders should be sent promptly to James L. Grebinger, P.O. Box 614, Oak Park, Ill. 60303. The quantity to be struck depends upon the number ordered but it will not exceed 500 in any case. Orders to this limit will be accepted as received, and will be mailed postpaid not later than mid-April.

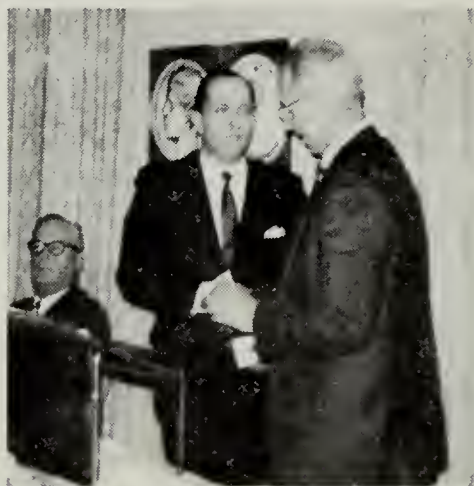
The Club issued a 1½-inch "gold-ine" (brass) token to mark its 600th meeting, the closing of its 49th year. The center of the obverse carries a monogram of three C's, around which is the Club name and the dates "1919-1969." On the reverse is simply "SIX HUNDREDTH MEETING JANUARY 8, 1969." The raised rim has denticles on both sides, in the manner of the Morgan type silver dollar.



Three "senior" members of the Club discuss the anniversary meeting, l-r Harry X Boosel, Harold Klein and Richard Cabeen.

Any of the 250 issues not picked up by members at or prior to the Club's

February 12 meeting will be available on a first come first served basis at \$1.25 each, postpaid. Past President Grebinger (address above) will handle these tokens as well as the 50th Anniversary medal.



New Chicago Coin Club President, Jim Babka, accepts a "minigavel" from his predecessor, Jim Grebinger.

The meeting which followed the dinner was restricted to brief introductions and remarks, the presentation of awards and installation of officers. Among the out-of-city members introduced by President Grebinger were Michael and Sylvia Dolnick of Washington, D.C.; Jasper Fiorenza of Rockford; Clyde and Mrs. Grimm of Lubbock, Texas; Chester Krause and Clifford Mischler of Iola, Wis.; William Ross of Pittsburg and Matt Rothert of Camden, Ark. Messages of congratulations and good wishes from others came from the Bebee's of Omaha, Bolenders of California, Budds of Fort Madison, Iowa, William T. Louth of New York City, Mrs. Margo Russell of Sydney, Ohio, D. J. Worthington of Tucson, Ariz., and the Yeomans of Racine, Wis.

Mrs. Gerda Birkholz, the Club's program chairman, presented plaques to the following members who were program speakers at monthly meetings during 1968: Wm. H. Brown, Howard Eisenberg, Dennis Forgue, Lee Hewitt, Matt Rothert, Glenn Smedley and Peter

Spadoni. Plaques went to several non-member guest speakers also.

The Club's coveted Medal of Merit for 1968 went to Mrs. Gerda Birkholz for her many activities in the Club over a number of years, especially as a leading exhibitor and promoter of educational functions. She has been active in other clubs in the area also, particularly at the Aurora Coin Club. The initial Richard McP. Cabeen annual award to the top exhibitor at regular meetings was presented to Glenn Smedley. Since the award, made possible by a donation to the Club by member Cabeen, was not setup until late summer, the 1968 award was based on exhibits at the last four monthly meetings. Hereafter there will be a second place award also.

Everyone at the meeting had a pleasant surprise when a special evidence of appreciation, in the form of a silver 50th Anniversary medal in a presentation case, was given to "Dick" Cabeen. His more than generous contribution of \$5,200 to the Club in 1968 makes possible the planning of several projects in the near future and, probably, others thereafter. Cabeen is known to readers of the Sunday *Chicago Tribune* for the lively column he has written for many years on philately, with frequent mention of numismatics, and for several years by a second column on this subject alone.

In a prelude to the installation of the 1969 officers, Matt Rothert, immediate Past President of the American Numismatic Association, reviewed briefly the formation of the Club on February 14, 1919, and mentioned some of its most noted members and accomplishments. The officers installed are President James J. Babka, Vice Presidents Lee F. Hewitt and James R. Budd, and Governors A. R. Birkholz, James L. Grebinger, J. Thomas Nolan and Glenn B. Smedley. Mrs. Marjorie Baker continues in the

office of Secretary-Treasurer.

The evening was concluded with an audience-participation program of entertainment conducted by Glenn Smedley, Mrs. Sharon Calderone, who is the secretary of the Oak Park Coin Club, and a professional accordionist. The latter played numbers for named members and Sharon "read" their minds.

Yes, it was an evening of gaiety and good fellowship, from which the Club now turns its attention and energies to putting into effect plans for the 30th Anniversary convention of Central States Numismatic Society. This organization, which was formed under the guidance of the Club, will hold its annual gathering in the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel on May 2-4.

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ANA-ANS-FRNS-CSNS-PNG

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CENTRAL STATING . . . Culled by H. B. Eisenberg

I hope you all have made your plans to join us for the 50 - 30 Anniversary Convention. The show marks the thirtieth anniversary of Central States and the Golden Anniversary of the Chicago Coin Club. Our committee has been working hard towards making the convention the best ever. We look forward to greeting you all. . . . Past President Phil More is recuperating from minor injuries sustained in an accident in front of his Chattanooga apartment. Phil sustained a bruised leg, one tooth knocked out, and a large gash in his lip that required a dozen stitches to close. Phil was playing baseball in his front yard with two seven-year-old boys. An unconfirmed report is that Phil tried to make a shoestring catch, but couldn't see his feet. . . . A. E. Bebee will not be manning his bourse table at the Central States convention this year for the first time in several years. The Bebees are sitting out the bourse circuit this year, or more correctly are working the other side of the table. The Bebees have been constant supporters of Central States. . . . This summer's A.N.A. election will be one of the most interesting to date. We look for a hard fought battle for every position, even the top spot. Look for some dark horses this year . . . Dick Hyde is seeking a buyer for his Numismatic Digest (nee Western Coin Collector). Dick and wife Barbara will head west from Denver to L.A. where he will join an electronics firm. In the meantime The Digest's future is up in the air. We shall miss the Hydes and their outstanding publication. They have had the courage of their convictions when the larger publications have thought a subject too hot to handle. Dick even supported candidates for the A.N.A. Board, which is unheard of. We shall endorse a complete slate in the next issue. . . . Also in the next issue will

be the first of a series on "So, You're Having a Coin Show" and pseudo-how-to-do-it guide for clubs sponsoring their first, or fiftieth show. The article will be written by a CENTINEL staff writer. . . . The Government issued mint sets which were worse than the proof sets which were shameful. . . . We wish to thank the six people who bothered responding to our last issue. This betters the previous record by 300%. . . . There must be something about Wisconsin; first Virginia Culver, then your Editor, and now Rollie Finner has crossed the state line. Rollie will join Krause Publications up in Iola where he will be Clem Bailey's chief assistant in charge of banana sticker research. Bailey recently received a Ford Foundation grant to study the effect of Wisconsin winters on banana stickers. . . . Elsewhere in this issue I have taken an ad to buy old issues of THE CENTINEL. Actually, I would like to get these back issues for nothing if you have them around. I have copies of all those I have edited but I need all issues under both "Brad" and Cab. . . . If nothing else the Chicago convention will be a success in that Elston Bradfield will present the first literary award bearing his name. "Brad" has improved markedly due to his recent treatment, and will make his first public numismatic appearance since the 1966 A.N.A. convention. Nothing could be more welcome. I have Brad's old job, and I know there are a lot of people who wish he was back. . . . A second banquet treat will be M.C. Lee Hewitt. Lee has filled many roles, but this will be a first for him. Lee has more numismatic (and otherwise) stories than anybody around. In fact, the meal, entertainment, and the entire program should make the banquet the highlight of the convention. The cost is \$8 each (about half our cost).

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2065	Fred Hissong	Defiance, Ohio
2066	Dr. E. Romle Romine	Grosse Pointe Park, Mich.
2067	John Adams, Jr.	Wayzata, Minn.
2068	William R. DeClue	Shrewsbury, Mo.
2069	Harry J. Fechte	Granite City, Ill.
2070	Robert T. Herdegen	Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.
2071	Wm. P. Kasperek, Sr.	St. John, Mo.
2072	Paul H. Lockett	St. Paul, Mo.
2073	William V. Lund	Wayzata, Minn.
2074	Michael N. Logan	St. Louis, Mo.
2075	James H. Bayer	Appleton, Wis.
2076	Howard L. Hood	Peoria, Ill.
2077	John A. Parsons	Peoria, Ill.
2078	Ann Dickerson	Peoria, Ill.
2079	Dorothy F. Epps	Homer, Mich.
2080	James Ruddy	Hollywood, Cal.
2081	Richard Coakwell	Columbus, Ohio
2082	Mary Jane Shirey	Fort Wayne, Ind.
2083	Betty K. Ebert	Fort Wayne, Ind.
2084	Georgia E. Kallmyer	Fort Wayne, Ind.
2085	Felix E. Dearing	Dearborn Heights, Mich.
2086	Wm. H. Brown	Hazel Crest, Ill.
2087	Michael R. Kirzner	Boston, Mass.
2088	Raymond Lee Simmons	Maplewood, Mo.
2089	John H. Roberts	University City, Mo.
2090	John N. Rowe III	Dallas, Texas
2091	Louis Nagy	Chicago, Ill.
2092	Walter R. Perschke	Chicago, Ill.
2093	Julian Leidman	Silver Spring, Md.
2094	Howard Murray	St. Louis Co., Mo.
2095	Neil B. Todd	Newtonville, Mass.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor:

I can not put my finger on any one thing that caused the decline of the C.S.N.S. We certainly did not have the leadership to meet the competition of the many state organizations that came into being in the late fifties. Also there were just too many conventions with resulting conflicts. The C.S.N.S. has had very little to offer, and outside of our quarterly and an annual convention—nothing. There has been very little contact with local clubs. We have offered no help to them and as a result there is little goodwill.

My own experience on the Board was sad. In six years I was asked to serve on two committees. A large amount of work on one came to naught. The other was unimportant. The personnel of the Board is not wisely chosen. I think each state should be limited to one member on the Board who would be elected only by members from his state. The numbers of members of the Board should be reduced by the number of states having no members in the Society. Clubs desiring affiliation should have at least 75% of their members in C.S.N.S.

Membership in C.S.N.S. should be much harder to obtain. We need more than simply a sponsor. A prospective member should have certain qualifications other than a simple whim. Our membership has too great a turnover.

The President and the entire Board should run the Society: for the benefit of the members. I agree that the terms of Governors should be staggered and the number of terms be limited to two consecutive ones.

The dues are too low, but if we are to raise them we must present a more attractive package than we have in the past. The membership must be increased, but quality must be

uppermost in doing this.

We need better relations with local clubs, but to get people to do this entails expense that has to be met in some way. It is not fair to ask individuals to lay out so much of their own money as we have shamelessly done in the past. A number of members are qualified to represent Central States, and we should seek out their help. Someone would have to pay their expenses and this might hurt as I have found the C.S.N.S. very niggardly in handing out money for any expense incurred by a member for organization business.

There is no such thing as "status quo," you must move and if it isn't up it will be down. It is my fondest hope that with young men like you the C.S.N.S. can again move forward and take a respected place in numismatics.

RUSSELL E. PORTER
Milwaukee, Wis.

Editor:

Never fear, you are coming in loud and clear, but when the bees are the quietest is always before the swarm. You make my sad heart jump with joy each issue when you take on the status quo establishment and do your bit to line them out. Anyone who has courage and the energy necessary to try and be a standard bearer in numismatics today is surely asking for trouble.

Keep up the good work, more people than you think appreciate your writing.

PAUL E. GARLAND
Maryville, Tenn.

Editor's Note: In his letter, Mr. Garland explains in some detail a problem he has had with the Professional Numismatists Guild. We hope to deal with dealers again in a future issue of THE CENTINEL. We also would like to thank those other members who have written suggesting editorial subjects.

Editor:

You asked for suggestions — mine may be radical . . . I just joined C.S.N.S. at the suggestion of Ray Lefman, and I have supported CSNS with the small annual dues because of the occasional "show" in Kansas City. Regardless of my "investment" or collection of coins, I was unable to go to an A.N.A. convention before I retired because of business. Now that I am retired I do not have the funds to go to A.N.A. conventions although I do have the time. Most collectors are in the same position.

Kansas City is lucky in having two fine annual shows—HANA and Midwest Numismatic Association. Whether a third show is justified, I know not. I believe not, but why not turn the C.S.N.S. into one of the 5, 6, 8, or 15 regions UNDER A.N.A.? With dues to A.N.A. and a certain amount of the dues reverting to a region which would have its own show each

year run by local people—just as CSNS does now. The "regions" could have officers which would prepare them for top A.N.A. offices. Today some national leaders have not had such experience.

Such arrangement would be to the advantage of the A.N.A. as it would establish a closer contact with its members, and to collectors who can not go to the annual A.N.A. convention. Perhaps only the top three exhibits at a regional convention would be eligible for competition at the A.N.A. convention. Informative regional articles could be contained in either the *Numismatist* or in a regional publication if regional advertising so justified.

PHIL A. MacKAY
Osceola, Missouri

Editor's Note: Mr. MacKay has hit the nail on the head. It doesn't take too much foresight to see what the regionals are becoming. His suggestions deserve serious consideration.

EARL C. BROWN DIES — FORMER CSNS SECTY.

On January 21 the second heart attack in less than 24 hours ended a twelve-year period of invalidism for Earl C. Brown at the age of 81. He suffered a severe stroke early in 1957 which left him bedfast the remainder of his life.

Earl was born in Council Bluffs, Iowa, but spent most of his life in Chicago as a certified public accountant, first with the Burlington Railroad and, for 33 years, with the Peabody Coal Co. Following his retirement in 1953, he worked with the well known coin dealers Charles E. and Ruth Green until he suffered the stroke on February 15, 1957.

About 25 years ago Earl shifted his collecting interest from philately to numismatics. He became a member of both the Chicago Coin Club (418) and the American Numismatic Association (9924) in 1944, and of the Central States Numismatic Society

(371) in 1948. He was devoted to all three organizations, becoming a life member of A. N. A. (LM-201) and C.S.N.S. (LM-72) and serving in an outstanding manner as secretary of C. C. C. (1947-49) and of C.S.N.S. (1954-57). All three organizations awarded their Medal of Merit to him for his dedicated services to them.

His collecting interest was varied and serious, but many a numismatist, from coast to coast, will remember him for his friendliness and interest in his fellowmen. Those who saw him during the last twelve years know that he never forgot a one of his friends and associations with them, a fact that must have helped to sustain him in his affliction.

Survivors include his devoted wife, Helen, a daughter, Mrs. Eleanor Beedle of California, and grandson Gary Wayne Beedle. A son preceded Earl in death.

—GBS

JUST ONE MEMBER'S RAMBLINGS

By GLENN B. SMEDLEY

Quite a few years ago (let's suppose) I bought a large truck and started a hauling business. As it grew, I found that more goods could be handled and service improved by using ten smaller truck, each operating in its own area. Things are going fine now: business is still growing, I'm making out very well financially and giving employment to ten drivers.

But I still keep the old truck, which is in good condition but sees very little service. Each year I buy the licenses required to put it on the street a few times; but mostly it uses up valuable storage space in the garage.

If all of this was true, wouldn't most people accuse me of a poor business practice. At best, they'd probably accuse me of affecting excessive sentiment for an inanimate friend of bygone days.

Thirty years ago (we are not supposing now) an ardent group of numismatists met in Chicago and organized the Central States Numismatic Society on April 23. Much preliminary thought and correspondence had been given to the idea. C.S.N.S. was what might be called an instant success. Only one of the thirteen states (Iowa) had a state-wide organization of its own. There were only about 30 clubs in the thirteen states listed as members of the American Numismatic Association, which then had a total membership of about 7,200. Numismatic conventions, coin shows, bourses and public auctions were few and widely scattered.

The Society gave its members in the midwest a convention to attend each year; and it was usually second in size and importance only to the A.N.A. convention. Without traveling a great distance (seldom more than

500 miles), almost any member could spend the convention weekend looking, talking, listening, buying, selling and swapping coins and information. The membership grew and attracted some pretty important names in the hobby—collectors, dealers and true numismatists (some of the latter were dealers, of course).

What's the present situation? About the only thing that hasn't changed materially is the mileage. Ten of the thirteen C.S.N.S. states have their own state organizations (or are part of other regional organizations), each holding an annual convention. One of the other three states (Missouri) has large clubs in its two high-population centers, each of which holds an annual show which rivals the state shows.

Now the thirteen states have well over 300 local clubs as A.N.A. members, which has a total membership of around 25,000. And many of the local clubs add their annual shows to those of the state organizations. The result is that most collectors in the C.S.N.S. area can, if they wish, attend several shows a year within a hundred miles of their homes; and more than even the dealers can get to within a day's drive. Yes, the hobby has prospered—in size, at least.

My next comment is not expected to be popular with some persons, but it is an undeniable factor. The C.S.N.S. had (and has) about 20 officers. Today's increased number of local and state clubs in its area have offices for something like 2500 persons to fill. The majority of these persons like the idea of being in an official capacity.

All of the foregoing is supporting evidence to my conclusion that there are too many coin organizations in the C.S.N.S. area — and in many

other parts of the country, too. My own preferred solution to the pickle we are in would be the dissolution of the state organizations, but this will not come to pass because of vested interests and other considerations.

By the way, going back to my imaginary trucking business — don't you feel that I should dispose of the

big old truck which has outlived its usefulness?

Editor's Note: Glenn B. Smedley, Oak Park, Illinois, is a distinguished member of the Society. Having held several election positions in the A.N.A., C.S.N.S., and Chicago Coin Club, he is at present a Governor of both the A.N.A. and C.C.C.

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THE CENTINEL

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THE FUTURE FOR CENTRAL STATES —

DO WE HAVE ONE?

Editorial

Thirty years ago the thought of a regional numismatic organization was daring and revolutionary. Men of vision like Frank Ross, Lee Hewitt, and others saw the need for some intermediate step between the national and the local club. That was in 1939 . . .

. . . In 1969 the regional organization is obsolete as we have known it. Its roll has been taken over by rich and powerful local clubs, state organizations, and even other "mini-regionals." To most the handwriting is on the wall. Central States, most other regional, and even many state organizations are either eking out an existence on convention revenue or are plain dying. Costs of everything have skyrocketed, printing, conventions, and every other expense an organization incurs. The regionals are faced with the difficult choice of cutting back services or raising the dues. Unfortunately, most have taken the seemingly easier option and have cut back on their services to members.

Two solutions come immediately to mind. Close shop and divide the treasury or give it to the A.N.A. or do nothing but languish in the memories of the Central States that once REAL-LY was second only to the A.N.A. To quit now would be to admit defeat before the decisive battle to continue with the "status quo" would be condemning Central States to a slow, terrible death.

It seems to me that the answer will only come over a period of years—perhaps a decade or more. The answer will almost certainly come from the A.N.A.—that is if the A.N.A. does soon experience the same problems

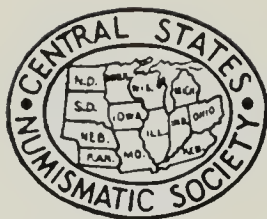
the smaller group are. Your Editor has long privately advocated the establishment of all regional, state, and local organizations under the central administration of the national association. Dues would be paid to the one national source and from there distributed to the various lower organizations. The one dues payment annually would entitle a collector to membership in the national, regional, state, and local organizations. There would be no purpose to join twenty state groups or every regional organization as some of us now do. Initially there would be one publication, much larger and much better than the national publication is today. For perhaps an annual fee of \$25 one would receive one magazine issued perhaps every month or perhaps more often. This publication would include not only all the articles submitted to all the groups in the nation, but the news of each area. It would do the job that today is done by perhaps one hundred small and often unread publications.

The private publications would still have their place and would be even stronger due to the lack of competition from the myriad of small house organs that are today issued by every state and regional numismatic group.

The regional convention circuit would attract good dealers and bring a "major" numismatic event within three hundred miles of every collector.

Perhaps this is Utopian or perhaps to some of you it sounds "socialistic." It's coming, either that or the gradual death of the regionals to be replaced by the local clubs and the national and nothing in between. . . .

Central States



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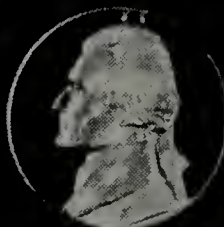
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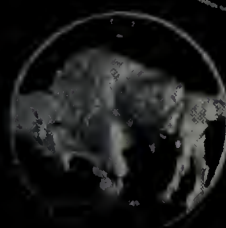
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